

Docket No.: 50212-313

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of :  
: Katsuya NAGAYAMA, et al. :  
: Serial No.: : Group Art Unit:  
: Filed: November 26, 2001 : Examiner:  
: For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MAKING OPTICAL FIBER

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-referenced Application, please amend  
the Application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

At page 1, line After the Tile, insert the following paragraph:

--Reference to Related Application

This Application is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/JP00/03411, whose international filing date is May 26, 2000, which in turn claims the benefit of Japanese Patent Application No. 1999-148153, filed May 27, 1999, and Japanese Patent Application No. 1999-289734, filed October 12, 1999, the disclosures of which Applications are incorporated by reference herein. The benefit of the filing and priority dates of the International and Japanese Applications is respectfully requested.--

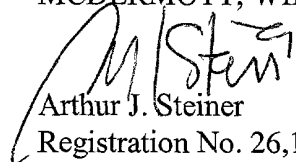
The amendment to Page 1 is attached in Appendix A.

REMARKS

Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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## APPENDIX A

### IN THE SPECIFICATION:

#### Reference to Related Application

This Application is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/JP00/03411, whose international filing date is May 26, 2000, which in turn claims the benefit of Japanese Patent Application No. 1999-148153, filed May 27, 1999, and Japanese Patent Application No. 1999-289734, filed October 12, 1999, the disclosures of which Applications are incorporated by reference herein. The benefit of the filing and priority dates of the International and Japanese Applications is respectfully requested.